# News Release
# Ministry of Northern Development and Mines

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## Ontario Invests In Reconstruction Of Highway 11 East Of Longlac

McGuinty Government On The Side of Northerners

THUNDER BAY – The Ontario government is making a significant investment into the rehabilitation of a section of Highway 11 east of Longlac. Thunder Bay-Superior North MPP Michael Gravelle made the announcement today on behalf of Northern Development and Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci.

"We are pleased to be investing in the revitalization of this important northern highway," said Gravelle. "Highway rehabilitation is a key priority and an important part of our government's Northern Prosperity Plan."

The project involves the reconstruction of approximately 20 kilometres of roadway through resurfacing, repairing frost heaves and distortions, and constructing a partially paved shoulder. The project will also improve traffic operations and reduce maintenance costs on Highway 11. A contract in the amount of $10,667,335 has been awarded to Pioneer Construction Limited of Sault Ste. Marie. The reconstruction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2007 and is expected to be completed by the fall of 2007.

"We are on the side of northerners. That's why we are helping to ensure the North is connected by safe and efficient highways," said Bartolucci. "With projects such as this, we are paving the way for the economic growth and improved infrastructure that northerners should expect."

"By modernizing our northern highways we are demonstrating our commitment to the communities that depend on our network of roads," said Transportation Minister Donna Cansfield. "Better highways will improve safety, help create jobs and foster prosperity throughout Northern Ontario."

The commitment to expand and rehabilitate northern highways was set out in ReNew Ontario, the province's five-year strategic infrastructure investment plan, which will help prepare the North for future growth.

The Ontario government is renewing and expanding vital highway infrastructure – including important routes such as Highway 11 – as part of its Northern Prosperity Plan. The plan is founded on four key pillars including: Strengthening the North and its Communities; Listening to and Serving Northerners Better; Competing Globally; and Providing Opportunities for All.

Since 2003, investments in infrastructure, postsecondary education, research and innovation and key

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economic sectors have helped strengthen Ontario's economic foundations and continue to build opportunity.

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